Habitat Restoration A Shared Vision

The Elko office of the Bureau of Land Management in collaboration with the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association and private land owners recently hosted a range tour for cooperating agencies highlighting successful habitat restoration projects in the Great Basin and Northeastern Nevada area.

“We hear a lot about the need for habitat restoration and preserving landscapes for the Greater Regional Sage-Grouse, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, and other potentially threatened species such as the pygmy rabbit. We also hear of the negatives to our landscape such as fire, invasive plants and degraded watersheds and riparian areas. In actuality there are many positive projects taking place that need to be highlighted and this tour did just that,” states Ron Torell, President of Nevada Cattlemen’s Association.

A number of the collaborative livestock management projects viewed over the two day tour focused on improving riparian areas and uplands on both public and private lands in Northeastern Nevada. Some of these projects such as the Maggie Creek Complex have been in place for more than 25 years. Tour participants were able to compare several before photos to present visual points of reference that clearly showed fascinating habitat restoration results over time. The positive changes realized in these allotments have taken place through improved cattle grazing management rather than through an exclusion of grazing or through a reduction in cattle numbers.

All visited projects share a common vision of restoring healthy functional streams as well as stable, well-vegetated uplands. In many cases, success has been achieved through partnerships developed among the ranching industry, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the mining industry, the Nevada Department of Agriculture and conservation organizations such as Trout Unlimited and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. Representatives from most of these cooperating agencies as well as allotment permittees and private lands owners were participants on the tour.

Many of these projects along with an open discussion about habitat restoration will be highlighted during the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association Annual convention to be held in Winnemucca on November 12 - 14. We invite the public and interested parties to participate in this event. The Nevada Cattlemen’s Association office is located in rooms 208 and 209 of the Henderson Bank Building. The office can be reached by phone at 775-738-9214, e-mail nca@nevadabeef.org or by face-to-face office visit each weekday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Nevada Cattlemen’s Association 80th Joint Annual Convention

The Nevada Cattlemen’s Association is eager to announce this year’s convention.

The 80th Annual Nevada Cattlemen’s Association Convention and Trade Show will be held November 12-14, 2015 at the Winnemucca Convention Center in Winnemucca, NV.

At convention members of the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association, vendors that provide services to the beef cattle industry and guest speakers will join together to celebrate the Nevada Livestock Industry. NCA staff and officers are working hard to provide you with a memorable and educational experience. This year’s theme is “Habitat Restoration.” Come to convention and learn more about successful Habitat Restoration projects presented by BLM, USFWS, NRCS, Permittees etc.

Registration for convention will be on our website and will also be sent out by mail and email near the end of September. If you are interested in attending and would like more information please call the office at 1-775-738-9214 or email nca@nevadabeef.org. The forms for sponsorship and exhibit booths have already been sent out. The exhibit spaces are filling up fast for this year’s trade show. If you did not receive this form and want one please contact us, we would be happy to send one to you. The Nevada Cattlemen’s Association would like to thank the sponsors and exhibitors; they help make our event a success.

During convention committee meetings take place to set policies. This is a chance for you to provide input to a committee chairman on any changes to a policy or a new policy that affects our industry and way of life. By participating it is a great way to get involved and have your voice be heard in the policy-making process.

On November 12, the first day of convention
**Nevada Cattlemen’s Association**

**Seeking Nominations for 2015 “Teacher of the Year”**

The Nevada Cattlemen’s Association has started their thirteenth annual quest for “Teacher of the Year” candidates. We are asking for your help in soliciting nominations from school principals and fellow teachers. Nominees may include teachers considered in previous years but who were not selected for the award. The deadline for submitting nominations is October 16, 2015.

The winner of this award will receive a $1000 school supply stipend, donated by Nevada Agriculture Foundation. The award recipient will also be recognized during the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association’s annual awards banquet on November 14th in Winnemucca, Nevada.

The nominations must be an elementary, junior high, or high school teacher, who incorporates agriculture into their regular curriculum. For example, a teacher who teaches a one week segment on agriculture and its importance to Nevada.

Anyone may submit a nomination form which is available at www.nevadacattlemen.org, or by sending an e-mail request to nca@nevadabeef.org, or by calling (775) 738-9214.

Nominations may be submitted by email to nca@nevadabeef.org with “2015 Teacher of the Year Nomination” in the subject line; forms may be faxed to 775-738-5208; or sent by mail to, “Teacher of the Year Nomination”, C/O Nevada Cattlemen’s Association, P.O. Box 310, Elko, NV 89803.

Nevada Cattlemen’s Association believes that the future of our industry lies in the education of the generations to come, as we explore new and innovative methods of sustainability. Please help us in our efforts to recognize and support our teachers and their vital efforts in educating our youth.

Thank you in advance for nominating a deserving teacher.

**Membership Update**

We would like to thank the following people for joining or renewing their membership with Nevada Cattlemen’s Association between June 24, and August 20, 2015. (New members are in bold.)

- Bell Ranch, Shane Bell
- Comanchero Cattle Co., Les Guilford
- Jamie Frayne
- Giant Rubber Water Tanks, Ed Reilly
- JHC Land & Cattle LLC, Ray Callahan
- ImmuCell Corporation, Janie Sustaita
- Merck Animal Health, Gene Klaft
- Mineral County Cooperative Extension, Jennifer Kintz
- Mike Mogensen
- Moly Mfg., Inc./Silencer, Christi Bailey
- Ridley Block Operations, Darin Anderson, Cody Carson
- Joe Ricci
- Shaw Cattle Company, Greg Shaw Family, Tucker & Angie, Sam & Janel Shaw
- Simplot Livestock Co., Bronc May
- Sloan Ranch, Jim & Kathleen Sloan
- Trout Unlimited
- USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, Jack Sengl
- USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Heather Emmons
- Valley Boot & Shoe Repair, Terry Kistler
- WSR Insurance/Silveus Insurance, Jim Vann
- Frank R. Wheeler
- Winn Inc./Key-Lix, Jon Walker
Internship Reflections
by Rick Barnes, Summer Intern with the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association

Since completing my internship, I have been reflecting back on my experiences and time spent working for the cattlemen’s association. As I think back to what I wanted to accomplish and learn, I realize that I learned far more than I ever thought there was to know about the issues facing Nevada Cattlemen and the western states cattle industries in general. During my internship I was fortunate enough to be able to sit in on the June Board of Directors meeting, not only as the summer intern, but as a young cattlemen as well. The biggest thing that I have taken away from my experience is that as an industry we need to work to educate, involve and interact with the younger cattlemen throughout the state, but more importantly young cattlemen need to take the initiative to get involved.

As a young cattlemen, I know about the issues facing the Nevada cattle industry as well as the future of our industry. I believe that we need to educate and teach our young cattlemen productive and sustainable grazing practices and how to document usage and educating them on the subject matter in process. More importantly they need to understand the sciences that fuel the thought processes behind these issues. By doing this, they will be able to carry on intelligent, professional, fact based conversations that will help us to better share our information as well as understand where the other side is coming from. With education, both sides of the issue or fight are understood which allows us to strategize and work toward mutual benefits leaving both parties with a sense of accomplishment when it’s all said and done. This will eventually lead to less conflicts and allow our industry to flourish. It will also help us to be viewed as a cooperative party in the subject which is the biggest obstacle facing our industry because many perceive us as uncooperative and one sided on issues.

That being said though, while we can educate and teach Nevada’s young cattlemen all we want, without interaction and involvement, all that time and energy has been wasted. By involving and interacting with young cattlemen such as myself, we learn from past experiences, gain valuable knowledge and learn history as well as understand the political motive that is employed by anti-grazing and anti-animal agriculture groups. We also learn how to act and present ourselves in a professional manner. I know from personal experience as part of the younger generation, we forget to allow others to explain themselves and reject their opinion if it isn’t the same as ours. This causes us to be blind to others’ perception of us which can do more harm than good even if we come out on top. By shadowing and learning from the older generations, we set a good foundation for future generations and ensure a strong association for future decades to come.

As young cattlemen we need to take the initiative to get involved. Now the older generation can involve us, interact with us and bring us in on these issues, but if we as young cattlemen don’t take the initiative to get involved, then the future of our industry becomes heavily reliant on foundations and decisions set and made by the former generations. With an ever evolving society, climate, and new government leaders with their own agendas, we need to understand the science and political motives in play. That way we are better able to protect our livelihoods as well as explain why we use and follow the practices we do. In Nevada, we are fortunate that our cattlemen’s association steps up and goes to bat to protect present and future Nevada cattle ranchers during this chaotic time. Few if any young blood show interest in taking the reins and stepping up or continuing doing the work that many cattlemen have been doing for decades. By giving young cattlemen the opportunity to learn and be involved, more people in my generation will step up and start taking on roles that will help the cattlemen’s association to grow and protect all of Nevada’s cattlemen.

By giving young cattlemen the opportunity to learn, interact and be involved, they may find and take the initiative to join the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association to both protect and continue a lifestyle, family businesses and more importantly Nevada Agriculture. I would like to thank Ron Torell for offering me the opportunity to work for the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association. I truly enjoyed working in the office and getting involved in the association this summer and look forward to future involvement.
### Nevada Cattlemen’s Association
#### 2015 Joint Convention & Trade Show

**Tentative Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, November 12, 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration for Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Rangeland Resources Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 AM - 3:00 PM</td>
<td>Central Grazing Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 PM - 4:30 PM</td>
<td>Nevada Land Action Association Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 PM - 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Animal Health and Livestock Issues Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM - 7:30 PM</td>
<td>NV Cattlemen’s Exec. Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 PM -</td>
<td>Night on the Town</td>
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<tr>
<th>Friday, November 13, 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 AM - 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration for Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 AM - 8:30 AM</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast bar in trade show area</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 AM - 9:30 AM</td>
<td>NV Cattlemen’s Breakfast &amp; Cattlemen’s General Membership Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>NV WoolGrowers Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 AM - 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Research and Education Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 AM - 9:45 AM</td>
<td>Trade Show Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 AM - 10:45 AM</td>
<td>Habitat Restoration Success Stories - Permittees, BLM, USFWS, Trout Unlimited &amp; UNR</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 AM - 11:45 PM</td>
<td>Private Lands, Wildlife and Environmental Management Committee Meeting (Craig)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>NV Beef Council: Beef Promotion Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM</td>
<td>NV Cattlemen’s BOD Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Public Lands Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 PM - 4:30PM</td>
<td>Trade Show Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 PM - 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Young Cattlemen Opportunities &amp; Open Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM - 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Young Cattlemen’s &amp; Leadership Reception in the Trade Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM</td>
<td>Western Fun Night</td>
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<tr>
<th>Saturday, November 14, 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration for Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</td>
<td>Newmont Sponsored Young Cattlemen’s Inspirational Breakfast - Amber Miller YCC tour Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM</td>
<td>Cattlemen’s College BQA certification by Zoetis Animal Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM - 10:15 AM</td>
<td>Trade Show Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 AM - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>NCA Membership Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 PM - 12:45 PM</td>
<td>Lunch in the Trade Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Tradeshow Closes</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Market Outlook &amp; Red Angus Programs &amp; Opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>NV Cattlemen’s BOD Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 PM - 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Cocktail hour</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM - 9:30 PM</td>
<td>NCA Awards Banquet</td>
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**Convention: Continued from page 1**

Susie Spring, Blue Basin Allotment 8-13-15. NCA officers and agency personnel on a recent range tour of successful habitat restoration projects. Come see and hear more at convention.

Those not wishing to participate in committee meetings have the opportunity to sharpen their bookkeeping skills with QuickBooks. Cassi Johnson with Pacific Intermountain Mortgage will offer a free class from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Attendees are recommended to bring their own laptops.

**To encourage new membership** NCA will provide a one-day waived registration fee to any Young Cattlemen between the ages of 18 and 35 attending convention for the first time on November 13. You also have the opportunity to become BQA certified during the 2015 NCA annual convention on November 14, 9:00 a.m. at the Winnemucca Convention Center. Zoetis Animal Health will be conducting a one hour BQA training at which time you will have the opportunity to take the open book NCA BQA test and become certified.

The tentative convention schedule is at left and also available online at our website, www.nevadacattlemen.org. We are constantly updating it. We look forward to seeing you all at convention!

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**Pre-Convention Committee Meetings Scheduled October 19 & 20**

Private Lands, Public Lands, Animal Issues and Legislative Affairs Committee chairmen have scheduled pre-convention meetings for October 19 and 20, 2015. The purpose of these pre-convention meetings is to review expiring resolutions and draft any new resolutions prior to convention. This is done in an effort to expedite the process at convention where full membership approval is sought. Active NCA members are welcome to participate in these pre-convention meetings.

The Animal Issues committee will begin at 9:00 a.m. on October 19 at the American AgCredit conference room in Elko followed by Private Lands then Legislative Affairs. Public Lands committee will begin at 9:00 a.m. on October 20 at the Humboldt county fairgrounds extension office in Winnemucca.

Should you have questions or would like to bring forward a resolution or change an existing policy or resolution, please come to these meetings and become a part of the process.
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

TRADE SHOW EXHIBITORS

- Nevada State Bank
- USDA-NASS
- Pacific Intermountain Mortgage
- American AgCredit
- Moly Mfg., Inc./Silencer
- UNCE Mineral County
- North-West Livestock Supplements LLC
- WSR Insurance/Silveus Insurance Rangeland
- ImmuCell Corporation
- Pinenut Livestock Supply
- Total Scale Service Inc.
- Multimin USA
- USDA APHIS Wildlife Service
- Winn Inc./Key-Lix
- Merck Animal Health
- Greenway Industries
- USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Simplot
- Giant Rubber Water Tanks
- Boss Tanks

Hope to See you There!
Integrity and Beef Quality Assurance

Integrity is “doing the right thing even when no one is watching”. Is it any wonder that those individuals with integrity are generally highly motivated, self-disciplined with good time management and organizational skills. People with integrity are usually the most productive and successful in their chosen field? These people have the heart and passion for what they do. They are usually self-starters who know how to prioritize and multi-task in order to get the job done. These are the people we search out to do business with and are satisfied with a hand shake to seal the deal. They can be counted on in every situation. They are dependable and good to their word. In every walk of life and profession there are those who have integrity and those who don’t.

Do you pass the integrity test? When shipping do you try to slip recently treated sick calves or a half Holstein all black animal in on the contract? How about feeding salt meal to your sale calves the night before so animals will fill up on water? The livestock industry prides itself in honesty and integrity. As an industry do we live up to these high moral standards? Consider the two scenarios below. What would your decision be?

Scenario one: You have three market ready (cull) cows that need to go to the sale yard, not a trailer load, just enough to be in the way around the ranch. Your neighbor is going to town and offers to haul these cows the 200 plus miles to the auction yard. The problem is you treated one of the cows last week for foot rot and used LA-200, a long acting antibiotic with a 30 day withdrawal period. You always treat at above labeled recommendations figuring that if a little is good, a lot is better. To complicate matters, you cannot seem to remember which black cow you treated. There is no more sign of foot rot so why not send all three market ready cows to market?

Scenario two: How about forward contracting for fall delivery, a set of “all natural” spring-born steer calves? You barely have a truckload, however, if all goes well, you can honor the contract. You received a premium as “all natural”, signed on the dotted line, and received a large deposit. In mid-summer you had a foot rot, pink eye and pneumonia outbreak. You ended up treating twenty percent of the calves with a long-acting antibiotic. Based on your signed contract, your truckload of calves is reduced to 80 percent after you remove the treated calves from the mix. The market has since dropped by 20 percent...
of what it was when you sold the truck load. There are 90 days between when you treated these calves and when you ship. What do you do? Who and how will they know?

For the moment let’s forget the integrity issue and examine testing procedures at the harvest plant. Random testing is used at USDA inspected plants. Additionally, any animal originating from a list of producers who are on the residue violators list is tested.

Any red flag cattle are automatically tested. These include carcasses with inflamed or discolored lungs or other organs, fresh injection sites and unthrifty looking animals. Good inspectors get so they can anticipate animals that may have been recently treated. The needles and the product do leave their mark under the skin or in the muscle for quite some time. If a carcass looks suspicious it is side-railed and a quick test is performed at the plant. If the quick test is positive, the tissue is sent forward and an in-depth test is run that can detect residues at finer levels. Producers that get caught with positive animals are “punished” economically by the packer. This encourages them and others to better observe the withdrawal times.

Testing is also done at breaker plants, after the harvest plant and prior to retail. For example, one gondola of hamburger may represent muscle tissue from over 250 animals. Once ground and mixed, one hamburger will represent this same number of cows identified to that gondola. A sample is tested from all these gondolas for e-coli and drug residues. If violations are found the entire batch must be disposed of. The gondola is traced back to the plant of harvest and if the plant kept good records, they can trace it back to the owners of cattle that went into that harvest mix. You can imagine the economic loss to all segments of the industry because of one violation.

The short answer to all of this is that as producers we have to recognize that we are not just producing cows or critters but are producing a meat product for someone’s table. We have to assure that the product meets the standards established, not just what we might get away with. Also, those market ready cows don’t all go to hamburger. Many of their cuts end up at the cheaper “steak houses” and at the sandwich shops with sliced roasts, etc. That is another critical reason for avoiding muscle injections even in cows.

The moral of the story is, do your part! Read and follow labeled directions and live up to the industry standards of integrity and honesty. Resist the temptation to take short cuts. Tell your neighbor you will have to wait on all three sale cows for thirty days. Contact your buyer and tell him about your dilemma with filling the contract with “natural” calves.

Every producer that is Beef Quality Assurance certified has agreed to follow drug withdrawal times on all antibiotics. Does your signature live up to the integrity and honesty of industry standards? After all we are to a large degree on the honor system.

Through this monthly column our hope is to update those involved in the Nevada Livestock industry about the issues NCA is working on for our mission continues to be to promote, preserve and protect a dynamic and profitable Nevada beef industry. Should you like to visit with NCA staff or officers in person feel free to contact NCA at 775-738-9214 or my NCA e-mail address ncapresident@nevadabeef.org

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**Become BQA Certified November 14 during the 2015 NCA Annual Convention**

Zoetis Animal Health will be conducting a one hour BQA training at which time you will have the opportunity become certified.

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**Become Nevada Beef Quality Assurance Certified**

Joe Glascock, NCA BQA Committee Chairman and Coordinator

Cow-calf producers are the very first link in the production chain. You can take the first step in producing a wholesome and safe product by becoming Nevada BQA certified. By implementing BQA practices on your ranch you have made a commitment to the industry goals of providing a safe and wholesome product to today’s consumer. BQA certification is voluntary and easy. The incentive is the personal satisfaction that you, as a beef producer, are doing everything in your power to produce a wholesome product. By becoming certified, you are increasing consumer confidence in your product: “Beef.” By increasing consumer confidence through your actions you will in turn increase demand for beef.

You have the opportunity to become BQA certified during the 2015 NCA annual convention on November 14, 9:00 a.m. at the Winnemucca Convention Center. Zoetis Animal Health will be conducting a one hour BQA training at which time you will have the opportunity to take the open book NCA BQA test and become certified. You may also become Nevada Beef Quality Assurance certified by visiting the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association web site http://www.nevadacattlemen.org Click on the membership button then on the NCA policy/committee button. Nevada Beef Quality Assurance manuals as well as the printable test with certification instructions is easily accessible. You may also contact the NCA office at 775-738-9214 or nca@nevadabeef.org and request a hard copy study manual and test.
WATCH & LISTEN TO THE SALE ON THE WEB AT:

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Steve Lucas
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Mark Venturacci
Fallon, NV
(775) 427-8713

or email us at wvm@wvmcattle.com
Look for the catalog and pictures on our website www.wvmcattle.com

Market your cattle with the professionals!
Nevada Ranch Honored for Stewardship Efforts

DENVER, COLO. (July 16, 2015) – Maggie Creek Ranch, the Searle Family and ranch manager Jon Griggs were honored with one of seven regional Environmental Stewardship Award Program (ESAP) awards. The honorees, announced during the 2015 Cattle Industry Summer Conference, were recognized for their outstanding stewardship practices. This year’s regional winners will compete for the national award, which will be announced during the 25th anniversary celebration in January 2016.

ESAP is sponsored by Dow AgroSciences, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) and the National Cattlemen’s Foundation, and is presented to farmers and ranchers who demonstrate a commitment to protecting the farm and ranch land in their care.

Maggie Creek Ranch is in the business of producing high quality beef while conserving and improving public and private lands. Their goal is to be the best possible stewards of their resources while feeding the world through production agriculture. The operation consists of approximately 198,000 acres of owned (deeded) and leased (public land grazing permit) land.

The Searle family and ranch manager Jon Griggs have worked to build long-term, positive relationships with agency staff and user groups to create an atmosphere of collaboration on both public and private lands. They see a challenge such as an Endangered Species Act listing as an opportunity for conservation projects for the betterment of the ranch.

“Our agency derives immense benefit because of Jon’s willingness to work collaboratively to demonstrate a shared vision for healthy Great Basin landscapes that benefit native wildlife species while also continuing the historic utilization of these landscapes by the ranching industry,” said Tony Wasley, Director of the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Since the early 1990s, the ranch has been a key partner in a collaborative effort to restore the Susie Creek watershed on both public and private lands with the goal of re-establishing Lahontan cutthroat trout. Over 25 miles of Susie Creek and its tributary streams have been improved through a combination of fencing and application of prescriptive grazing practices. Improvement of stream and riparian habitat conditions has been dramatic and recovery is to the point where cutthroat trout will be released into the system within the next few years.

“We’re really happy about how the rangeland health is coming along and how our riparian values are improving. All that improves the value of the ranch,” said Griggs. “I’m really proud of the work that we’ve done to improve our riparian areas and recover the trout habitat on the ranch.”

In addition to riparian and upland rangeland improvement through improved grazing management, cooperative noxious weed treatment work between Maggie Creek Ranch and the Bureau of Land Management has resulted in effective treatment of thousands of acres of scotch thistle and Russian knapweed. These efforts are ongoing and benefit habitat and wildlife on both public and private lands.

Forage Kochia Warning

Barry Perryman, Professor at the University of Reno, recently received a report of cows dying of frothy bloat after spring grazing on rangeland containing large concentrations of forage kochia. The following information should be shared in order to reduce/prevent any further incidents:

As we approach the fall season, the use of forage kochia as an important grazing resource increases. Although forage kochia is an excellent feed source for both wild and domestic grazing animals, it has a serious but little known negative characteristic. Forage kochia has a high potential for causing frothy bloat. At least four major mortality events have occurred since 2008. Other events occurred in fall 2012, 2014, and in the spring of 2015. With fall rains, forage kochia begins to grow rapidly and produces seed. Frothy bloat is a function of nutritional content and small forage particle size. Forage kochia has both of these characteristics, high protein content and very small stems, leaves, and reproductive parts including seeds. If forage kochia seeded areas have other grazeable forages like crested wheatgrass or cheatgrass, it will tend to lower the likelihood of bloat. However, when forage kochia is the only thing that is green and growing in a pasture, the likelihood increases. A few management actions can reduce the potential of bloat episodes and any associated mortality:

1. Avoid if possible, moving animals from dry feed conditions to areas where forage kochia is green and actively growing.

2. Avoid if possible, turnout of hungry animals into forage kochia seedings. Feeding hay or providing ample grazing forage just before the move should reduce the quick consumption of large amounts of green forage kochia.

3. Consider providing anti-bloat products, and/or provide free choice hay or other dry bulk feeds while the animals transition into forage kochia seedings.

These management actions cannot guarantee zero frothy bloat mortality, however they should reduce the risk.

Jon Griggs, Maggie Creek Ranch Manager (NCA file photo)
NEVADA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Calving Ease, Growth, Maternal & Carcass Traits

Fall Cattleman's Classic
October 10th, 2015
Terrebonne, OR

75 Bred Heifers • 75 Bred Cows
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30 18 month old bulls
sired by Prime Time, Right Kind & Conquest

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Federal Land Policy and Management Act Recently Amended

Dear Sage Signals Readers,

In keeping with the intent of information sharing found here, I wanted to make sure that everyone is aware that the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) was recently amended, and describe how. The National Defense Appropriation Act (signed in December, 2014) included language that amended section 402 of FLPMA in multiple ways. Some of the most notable changes include:

1. BLM is now allowed by law (instead of relying on a yearly appropriations act rider) to renew expiring permits as long as the same terms and conditions apply. Although this does not count as a ‘fully processed permit’, it guarantees BLM’s ability to renew expiring permits.
2. FLPMA now includes Categorical Exclusion (CX) authority for permit renewals provided certain criteria are met.(see below)*
3. FLPMA now includes CX authority for issuing crossing permits when appropriate.

* FLPMA Section 402(h)(1) Criteria for Application of Categorical Exclusion used to Issue a Grazing Permit or Lease include:

1. The permit or lease continues the current grazing management of the allotment(s).
2. A land health assessment and evaluation have been completed in accordance with BLM Handbook H-4180-1.
3. The Authorized Officer concludes from the findings of the evaluation report that:
   a. The public land subject to the evaluation is meeting land health standards, or
   b. The public land subject to the evaluation is not meeting standards due to factors other than current livestock grazing

These changes to FLPMA may not impact you, however being aware of them is important. One of the main intents of these changes is to allow for prioritizing permit renewals due to resource needs, as opposed to expiration dates. Also, the goal is to use much more streamlined NEPA for areas without livestock management related concerns that need to be addressed. You may view the full amendment to FLPMA at http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/grazing.html.

Nevada BLM is also getting closer to the signing of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Greater Sage Grouse Final EIS. I am sure that brings up questions, concerns, and uncertainty in many of your minds. As we are all approaching this new chapter of land management, BLM NV wants to ensure that everyone understands the changes that will occur as a result of the signing of the ROD. We at the State Office are having multiple trainings for the Field Office Staff. We also want to make sure that we are providing information and training to permittees/lessees throughout the state. Meetings throughout NV will occur after the signing of the ROD to provide a place for permittees/lessees to receive information, as well as ask questions. In addition, there will be various trainings throughout NV that will offer permittees/lessees a chance to learn upland and riparian monitoring techniques and gain understanding on what each technique is useful for. By being well informed, we will all have the best opportunity for success.

Please send us your thoughts regarding what would be most useful to you. Blm_nv_nvso_web_mail@blm.gov, Subject line – Kathryn Dyer.

Speaking of monitoring, BLM is currently working with a large variety of agencies/entities, led by University of Nevada, Reno Cooperative Extension, to revise the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook. This revision is due, in part, to the need to sufficiently incorporate needed changes to sage-grouse habitat monitoring. During the revision, much conversation has revolved around the need to better address adaptive management. We will work hard to ensure that adaptive management practices become better understood and therefore more able to be better implemented on the ground.

BLM NV continues to be a good source of on-site information for the US Drought Monitor authors. They have sent us several requests for information on areas where they have had data ‘holes’ or were looking for a validation of conditions. Several offices throughout the state have provided information on the vegetation conditions, as well as the water availability at seeps, springs and stock ponds. The Drought Monitor authors, as well as the Field Offices, are glad to have this ability to communicate, and it is proving quite beneficial for all involved.

Please, always feel free to send your feedback, comments, topic ideas, and questions by emailing blm_nv_nvso_web_mail@blm.gov - Attention Kathryn Dyer.

Nevada Water Solutions LLC
Water Rights / Resource Permitting Expertise
Thomas K. Gallagher, PE
Hydrologic Engineer
Over 31 years of experience with the Nevada State Engineer’s Office
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Lorenzo Lasater
San Angelo, Texas
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lorenzo@isabeefmasters.com
www.isabeefmasters.com
Western Regional Data Collection

You have probably noticed in recent years the emergence of a new term, “sustainable beef.” What this means and why we even need to discuss it is certainly a topic for debate; however, major retail purchasers of beef in the United States have made declarations they will begin sourcing “sustainable beef” in the coming years. The term also appears frequently in questions posed to beef producers by our consumers. This means it will impact us whether we want it or not. And why not? Too often beef has let others define our story and, when it comes to some of the key themes of sustainability, the U.S. beef community has a great story to tell.

In this effort, the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA), a contractor to the Beef Checkoff, has undertaken significant scientific research into the sustainability of beef production. The first phase of the Beef Industry Sustainability Assessment has been completed using data from the Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Nebraska. The results were recently certified by NSF International, lending credible, third-party verification to the study, helping to prove that beef is sustainable. The results of phase one can be found here: http://beefresearch.org/beefsustainabilityresearch.aspx.

In phase two of the assessment, the work is being expanded to include data from individual cattle-producing regions across the country. By looking at regional practices and incorporating that information into the study, the research will be more representative and we will be better able to tell the beef story through sound science. To accomplish this goal we need help from you, beef producers!

We are asking cow-calf and stocker operators to complete this 15-minute survey. All results will be confidential and will not be traceable to the individual operation. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Region4RanchSurvey

We are asking feedyard operators to complete this 25-minute survey. All results will be confidential and will not be traceable to the individual operation. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Region4FeederSurvey

The Beef Industry Sustainability Assessment is not an attempt to force a change in practices or advocate a one-size-fits-all approach to beef production. There are few things less sustainable than a one-size-fits-all approach. Rather, we are working to prove and showcase beef’s improved sustainability over time. If you are interested in learning more about this Beef Checkoff Research Program please visit www.beefresearch.org. Thank you for your help in this important project for the beef industry.
The National Cattlemen's Beef Association will have a clearly defined investment schedule for the Policy Division of the Association. Each category will have specific definitions and requirements. All interested parties will submit an application expressing interest in membership, and appropriate background information. The Membership Committee and Policy Division of the Board of Directors (Board) will review and take appropriate action.

### Membership Categories

#### Regular Members

Regular Members are cattle owners or persons actively engaged in live cattle production in the United States. They shall pay a membership fee based on one of the following dues schedule options:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cow/Calf (based on herd size)</th>
<th>Dues</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-100</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>101-250</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>251-500</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<td>501-750</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,501-1,750</td>
<td>$1,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,751-2,000</td>
<td>$1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,001+</td>
<td>$1,900 + 38¢/head</td>
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</tbody>
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- **Stocker/Feeder**
  - Stocker/Feeder: $150 + 38¢/head marketed

- **Unified Feeder Affiliates**
  - 19¢/hd marketed

#### Membership Dues (approved 7/2015) - Option A

- **50% one-time increase in FY16**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cow/Calf (based on herd size)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-100</td>
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<td>$1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,001+</td>
<td>$1,900 + 38¢/head</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Membership Dues (approved 7/2015) - Option B

- **25% increase in FY16 additional 25% in increase FY18**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cow/Calf (based on herd size)</th>
<th>Dues in FY16/Dues in FY18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-100</td>
<td>$125/$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>101-250</td>
<td>$250/$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>251-500</td>
<td>$375/$450</td>
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<td>501-750</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,001-1,250</td>
<td>$950/$1,150</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,251-1,500</td>
<td>$1,150/$1,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,501-1,750</td>
<td>$1,350/$1,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,751-2,000</td>
<td>$1,550/$1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,001+</td>
<td>$1,550/$1,900 plus 31¢/hd FY16, 38¢/head FY18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Stocker/Feeder**
  - Stocker/Feeder: $125/$150 plus 31¢/hd FY16, 38¢/head FY18

- **Unified Feeder Affiliates**
  - 15.75¢/hd FY16, 19¢/hd FY18

### Affiliate Organization Members

Affiliate Organization members are state or regional associations of cattle producers or feeders that meet such other requirements established by the Board. Renewing Affiliate Organizations must sign and return an Investment Worksheet, provided by NCBA’s Accounting Department, along with payment of their fee prior to May 1 of each fiscal year. Non-payment by this date will result in an affiliation status vote by the Board.

**Investments**: Affiliate Organizations earn Board and committee representation on each policy committee based on the following formula:

A) Minimum investment

- a. General Rule – 1 board seat for minimum of $10,000 (including Affiliate Fee).
- b. Exception – 1 board seat for minimum of $5,000 (including Affiliate Fee) for Affiliate Organization Members from states with fewer than 150,000 head of beef cattle (as defined by National Agricultural Statistics Service for “Cows & Heifers That Have Calved”).

B) Additional Investments

- a. Each additional Policy Division Board seat shall cost $35,000.
  - i. Contributions made (by individual members of the state affiliate or the state affiliate) to cause-related fundraising efforts, aligned with supporting NCBA’s legislative and regulatory priorities, will count toward the affiliate’s investment.
  - ii. Contributions will be credited to the member’s affiliate organization.
- b. An Affiliate Organization that contributes 10% or more of the Policy Division’s total membership revenue (based on prior fiscal year) shall be entitled to one seat on the Policy Section of the Executive Committee.

**Affiliate Fee**: The Affiliate Fee shall be computed based on the total number of Board seats an Affiliate Organization Member earned in the previous fiscal year:

- $3,000 1-2 seats
- $5,000 3-4 seats
- $7,500 more than 4 seats

### Allied Industry Council Members

Allied Industry Council Members are entities that engage in activities which support or are associated with, but do not constitute the production and/or feeding of cattle, including but not limited to: feed companies, distributors, pharmaceutical manufacturers, financial institutions.

**Annual dues**: $25,000

Board and committee representation to be based on an aggregate of the Council’s investment.

- $200,000 2 Board and committee seats
- $300,000 4 Board and committee seats
$400,000 6 Board and committee seats
$500,000 8 Board and committee seats
$600,000 10 Board and committee seats

Allied Industry Council:
• Shall select voting members for any committee with no more than one Council member on a committee.
• Shall elect an individual to serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the NCBA Executive Committee.

Allied Industry Partner Members
Allied Industry Partner Members are entities that engage in activities which support or are associated with the cattle industry, but support at a lesser level than the Allied Industry Council.

Annual dues: $3,000
Board and committee representation to be based on an aggregate of the Partner’s investment.
• $100,000 1 Board and committee seat
• $200,000 2 Board and committee seats

Allied Industry Partners:
• Shall select voting members for any committee with no more than one Partner member on a committee.

Product Council Members (approved July 2015)
Product Council Members are entities that operate beef or veal packing or processing facilities or market beef or veal. Member benefits vary based on investment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Annual Dues:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef packer/processor</td>
<td>$.09/head in FY16 OR $.075/head in FY16 and $.09/head in FY18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retailer</td>
<td>$3,000 up to $25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foodservice</td>
<td>$3,000 up to $25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef wholesale/manufacturer</td>
<td>$10,000 plus .005% of total sales – investment cap at $25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplier</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each Council member investing greater than $10,000 may select an individual to serve on the Policy Division Board and policy committees in a voting capacity. Council members investing greater than $150,000 will automatically earn an additional Board and committee seat. There shall be no more than two Product Council members from one organization on a committee. Council members shall collectively elect an individual from the Council to serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the NCBA Executive Committee.

State and National Industry Organization Members
State and National Industry Organization Members are general farm, CattleWomen, commodity and livestock marketing entities that represent producers or processors of one or more agricultural commodities.

Annual dues: $5,000
This entitles the organization to one Policy Division Board and committee seat.

Beef Breed Organizations Members
Beef Breed Organization Members are national and regional breed registry organizations that represent individuals or entities actively engaged in the production of cattle.

Annual dues: $3,000
This entitles the organization to one Policy Division Board and committee seat.

Beef Industry Associate Members
Beef Industry Associate Members are state or regional cattle/beef associations and national cattle/beef registry associations which are composed of and represent persons who are actively engaged in the production of cattle within the United States. They are non-voting members.

Annual dues: $1,000

Livestock Marketing Council Members
Livestock Marketing Council Members are livestock market operators and livestock marketing professionals involved in the business of marketing live cattle and livestock.

Annual dues: Minimum $200
Maximum $2,000
Based on Gross Annual Sales x $.15/$1,000 sales

• $10,000 1 Board and committee seat
• $35,000 Each additional Board and committee seat

The Livestock Marketing Council:
• Shall earn seats on the NCBA Policy Division Board of Directors and committees, based on the collective dues sent to NCBA.
• Shall collectively determine the individual(s) to represent the Council on the Policy Division Board, committees and as an ex-officio, non-voting member to the NCBA Executive Committee.

Supporting Members
Supporting Members are individuals or entities other than those previously listed in the Policy Division Investment Schedule membership categories who wish to support the Association. They are non-voting members.

Annual dues:
Individual $150
Local and State Supporting Businesses $200
Student (24 years old and younger) $50
Foreign Members:
Canada/Mexico $250
Other Foreign Individuals $400
All Corporations $1,000

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Looking Ahead, Planning for Our Future

For the Nevada Beef Council (NBC) and other Qualified State Beef Councils throughout the country, drawing inspiration and guidance from efforts being done on a national level helps ensure we are all operating on the same page when it comes to accomplishing the goal of increasing beef demand.

That’s why it is so important for all of us to review and understand planning efforts done on a national level. Recently, at the 2015 Cattle Industry Summer Conference in Denver, leaders of the Beef Checkoff Program adopted the 2016-2020 Beef Industry Long Range Plan (LRP). The plan, developed by a task force made up of 16 representatives from various segments of the beef industry, was created after months of careful consideration and research.

The LRP identifies increasing beef demand as the single most important strategic objective for the industry to pursue, and established the specific objective to “increase the beef demand index measure by 2 percent annually over the next five years.” To achieve this, focus will be on four core strategies:

1. Drive growth in beef exports
2. Protect and enhance the business and political climate for beef
3. Grow consumer trust in beef and beef production
4. Promote and strengthen beef’s value proposition

“The overall vision of the task force was straightforward,” said John Butler, CEO of Beef Marketing Group and task force co-chairman. “Recognizing the growing demand among the world’s middle class for high-quality protein, we want the U.S. beef industry to responsibly produce the most trusted and preferred protein in the world. At this pivotal point in the U.S. beef industry’s history we need to focus our energies and limited resources on those areas that can provide our industry the best results.”

Closer to home, the LRP meshes well with the long-range priorities the NBC established last fall. With a mission of “engaging Nevada beef producers and stakeholders with consumer outreach and education to increase beef demand,” the NBC established priorities centered on convenience, health and nutrition, beef’s image, and a focus on high population areas and influencers with the consumer target of millennials.

All of these efforts, both on a state and national level, are done with producer guidance, and to ensure your checkoff dollars are invested in the most effective manner possible, helping to strengthen your return on investment.

A Seasonal Tradition: Tailgating with the Nevada Wolf Pack

For the past few football seasons, the NBC has had a strong presence at a number of Nevada Wolf Pack home football games, tailgating before the games with 92.1 The Wolf and chatting with fans about beef. This year will be no different.

The NBC will once again partner with The Wolf for several Nevada home games. If you happen to be at any of these, come say hello and watch us in action as we share great beef recipes and cooking information with fellow tailgaters!

The tailgating will coincide with another year of exciting fall campaigns with our partners Reser’s Fine Foods and Save Mart Supermarkets. A tailgating-themed promotion that touches on one of America’s favorite past times and offers coupon incentives for shoppers to purchase beef is already underway.

Through September 22, Save Mart customers in Northern Nevada who purchase a select package of beef and a Reser’s 3-pound potato or macaroni deli salad can save $3. An extensive radio broadcast and social media campaign on Facebook and Twitter will focus on football season, tailgating, football parties at home, and how easy it is to be a game-day hero by feeding everyone beef and Reser’s.

The promotion will also entice people to engage with the NBC’s Facebook page where they can enter to win a tailgate prize package that includes a portable propane gas grill, a Reser’s rolling cooler and stadium seat, “Beef. It’s What’s For Dinner” gear such as barbecue tools, an apron and a cutting board, and more. By featuring a social media element in this contest, the NBC hopes to expand its digital reach, which will help increase the number of consumers it can engage with to share the Nevada beef community’s story moving forward.

An upcoming promotion with Raley’s Supermarkets and Crock-Pot Slow-Cookers slated for October 14 through November 3 will also coincide with this year’s UNR tailgating fun.

For more information about your Beef Checkoff programs, visit www.nevadabeef.org, or www.mybeefcheckoff.com today!